

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of the Study

It is normal for an author to express about his feeling for writing, especially to make any literary work, song, and music. Sometimes, the authors write works based on their own experiences that make it be interesting to discuss. People can learn about someone's life in literary work. In romantic era of literature, we find many popular literary works. The author's focus on their own characteristic in line with its spirit of romanticism era.

"Romantic ideas centered around art as inspiration, the spiritual and aesthetic dimension of nature, and metaphors of organic growth. Art, rather than science, romantics argued, could best express universal truth" (Islam 58). In literature, we have an era that call romanticism, from the quotation above it can be said that romantic ideas focus on arts as an inspiration, using the nature, and metaphor. Romantic expresses about the universal truth in the text.

The next explanation is about romanticism in America. According to Mario Klarer, the romanticism era started at the end of eighteenth century, "At the end of eighteenth century, Romanticism marks the beginning of a new period of English literature theory" (Klarer 70) This era had William Wordsworth as famous author, his poet is emotional. Cite information from literary criticism told that "Such as poet need longer follow a prescribed set of rules, for this artist may freely express his or her own individualism, valuing and writing about feeling that

are peculiarly the artist's" (Blessner 27). It can be concluded that this era had a characteristic of individualism, authors may express feeling and talk freely on their own work.

"Romantic thought and art are characterized by an emphasis on inspiration, imagination, spontaneity, naturalness, originality, unconscious intuitiveness, passion, and in some of its manifestation, sublimity, frenzy, and mystery" (qtd by Murwantono 138). In literature, since this era raising a literary work with romanticism, the era called as American romanticism, the author of this era mostly expressing their character like individualism, their motivation, imagination, emotion and so forth. We are all familiar with some author of this era such as Edgar Allan Poe, Herman Melville, Nataniel Hawthore, and so forth. They are all has own characteristics to writing, and give a lot of genres on literature.

In this era, also familiar with plantation and slavery, when mostly Black people being as a slave. They had to worked hard in the field. "Displayed on auction blocks like a miscellaneous object people were marked, renamed, and separated from peers and loved ones to toil on southern plantations until they collapsed from stress, overwork, and misery (5)". It can be said, they have to far from friends, or even family to worked at the field hardly until they collapsed from stress, overwork and misery.

Slavery is so much terrible on society. Slavery is much unhuman, some slaves get punishment if they do wrong. It is hard to free, or even think to be free. The President of America, Abraham Lincoln was the one who fighting for America, he wanted to let slave free. Fortunately someone cares about slavery. He

wanted human live peaceably without any violence, from it information people knew that black people got support to their freedom of slavery. They did not fight lonely. “On January 1<sup>st</sup> 1863, Lincoln declared the Emancipation act. He tried to stop spreading of the slavery and claimed that each territory has to be open only to free people” (Milevoj 9). It means, Linclon confirmed the Emancipation act, He wants to stop slavery in society.

After talking about slavery, it is important to discuss about slave’s psychology, because psychology is interesting to discuss. There are so many theories of psychology, such as Post Freudian theory by Erikson, Holistic Dynamic theory by Maslow, Analytic Psychology by Jung, Psychoanalysis by Freud and so forth. The famous psychology known by people is from Sigmund Freud. In Freud psychoanalysis is never far with unconscious, conscious, id, ego, supergo. Those all are the basics of psychoanalysis. The next question, what is psychoanalysis itself? According to Blesser, “Freud became a founding father of psychoanalysis, a method of treating emotional and psychological disorders” (Bressler 148). It can be said that psychoanalysis handling emotional and psychological condition. “Psychoanalysis is a generic term for both a set of psychological theories and a group of techniques, each of which emphasizes the unconscious as an essential factor in human adaptation and behavior” (Lipner et al 2). It can be said, psychoanalysis is a technique to analyzes human adaptation and behavior. Toksoz said “Sigmund Freud who is noted as the father of psychoanalysis asserts in his theory that people’s behavior are directed by a part

of the mind called unconscious” (Toksoz 66). It means, unconscious might to control human behavior.

“For Freud, the unresolved conflicts that give rise to any neurosis are the stuff of literature, a work of literature, he believes, is the external expression of the author’s unconscious mind. Accordingly, the literary work must be treated like a dream, applying psychoanalytic techniques to the text to uncover the author’s hidden motivations and repressed desire” (Blessner 153). It can be said, Freud believes that the external expression of an author based on unconscious, conscious mind, by using psychoanalytic techniques can reveals author’s motivations and repressed desire.

Moreover, Hossain says “Psychoanalysis is a psychological theory developed in the late 19 than early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries by Austrian Neurologist Sigmund Freud and others. Freud’s psychoanalytic theory, coming as it at the turn of the century, provided a radically new approach to the analysis and treatment of ‘abnormal’ adult behavior” (Hossain 42). It means, Freud’s theory of psychoanalysis is psychological theory, it refers to analysis and treatment about human with abnormal or even adult behavior

Psychoanalytic used to analyze the hidden meaning of literature work. This research uses psychoanalytic to analyze *Twelve Years A Slave Narrative of Solomon Northup* in 1855.

This autobiography novel is amazing, it is based on true story. The researcher interested to analyze this story, while the idea is inspired by Mr. Murwantono’s idea on his journal that named *Psychoanalytic Literary Criticism*

of American Romanticism Literature as Reflected in Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, the journal published on 2011. The researcher uses his journal as the first reason to choose this title because the material is much interesting to discuss. Moreover, this object is similar to discuss with same theory with different object.

### **B. Limitation of the Study**

This study analyzes the *Twelve Years A Slave Narrative of Solomon Northup* while pointing out Psychoanalytic literary criticism and American romanticism.

### **C. Problem Formulation**

Based on the background of the study above there are some problems that can be formulated as follows:

1. What are the American romanticism characteristics in Solomon Northup reflected in the *Twelve Years A Slave Narrative of Solomon Northup*?
2. How did the main character's struggles for his psychologically escape from slavery on the *Twelve Years A Slave Narrative of Solomon Northup*?

### **D. Objectives of the Study**

1. To explain about American Romanticism characteristics of *Twelve Years A Slave Narrative of Solomon Northup*.
2. To analyze about the main character's struggles psychologically toward slavery in *Twelve Years A Slave Narrative of Solomon Northup*.

### **E. Significance of the Study**

This research method paper is expected to be useful in the following ways such as:

1. This study helps students to concern more about the American Romanticism characteristic especially Self Awareness, Nature, Self Reliance.
2. This research also helps to students understand about the concept of Psychoanalysis literary criticism in their project in the future.

### **F. Organization of the Study**

This paper contains of 5 chapters. The chapter one explains about introduction that consists of: background of the study, limitation of the study, problems formulation, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and outline of the study. The chapter two contains of review of related literature which presents the synopsis of subjects of thesis, the explanation American Romanticism characteristic such as Self Awareness, Nature, and Self Reliance. It also explain about Psychoanalysis literary criticism. The chapter three is a research methodology. It deals with data organizing, that consist of data collecting method, reading the novel, identifying the data, classifying the, reducing the data. Types of the data consist of primary and secondary data. Analyzing the data consists of analyzing and reporting the data. The chapter four is description of literary analysis, discussion of the data analysis. The chapter five is about conclusion and suggestion. It deals with conclusion of the analysis based on discussion of the data

in chapter four. Moreover, suggestion for the next analyzes uses same theory with different object of the study in the future is included.